FISCAL MEMORANDUM SB 724 – HB 1188

April 13, 2007

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (005349): Deletes the original bill in its entirety. Entitles all victims of sexually-oriented crimes to a free forensic medical examination. Authorizes payment up to \$750 from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF). Victim does not have to report the crime to law enforcement or cooperate with prosecution efforts for such claims to be eligible for payment from the CIC Fund.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

(CORRECTED)

Increase State Expenditures -

\$357,000 / Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund

\$170,100 / Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Fund FY07-08

\$60,000 / Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Fund FY08-09 and future years

Other Fiscal Impact – Transfers one-time accrued fines of \$210,000 and recurring annual fine revenue of \$60,000 from sexual assault program services (currently unfunded) to new Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Fund.

The bill does not require the State to eliminate out-of-pocket costs to the victim for all forensic medical examinations since Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Fund funding will not cover all of the exams for victims who do not qualify under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund. Failure of the State to remove all out-of-pocket costs from the victim by January 1, 2009, jeopardizes an existing federal grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$2,500,000 annually.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$40,000 Recurring / General Fund \$5,000 One-Time / General Fund \$420,000 Recurring / Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund

Increase Federal Expenditures - \$630,000 Recurring

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- According to the Tennessee Hospital Association, at least 1,400 forensic medical examinations were performed in 2005. If claims for reimbursement were submitted in all cases, the total cost of these examinations would be $$1,050,000 (1,400 \times $750 = $1,050,000)$.
- The state will pay 40 percent of the costs ($$1,050,000 \times 0.40 = $420,000$). The federal government will pay 60 percent of the costs ($$1,050,000 \times 0.60 = $630,000$).
- The Treasurer will require one new position at a cost of \$40,000 in salary and benefits plus one-time expenditures of \$5,000 for a computer and office supplies.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director

/LSC